



GRAND LODGE DANIA & DANNEBROG

Danish Societies Dania & Dannebrog of California and Nevada

December 2020

Dannebrog Grand President

Here we are nearing the end of 2020. Thank goodness! I'm looking forward to a brighter future in 2021. In the meantime, we are all still practicing safe distancing, mask wearing and, of course, sanitizing everything, so that we will be able to meet and greet in person. I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!—*Beth Cowan, Dannebrog Grand President*

Dania Grand President

I hope everyone was able to find many things to be thankful for on Thanksgiving. This year has challenged us all to look deeper for, and appreciate more, the simpler joys in life. As members of Dania and Dannebrog look ahead to 2021, there still will be more adjustments and adaptations to consider when it comes to enjoying what we all do the best, “to promote sociability among our members” and hopefully not too many more months of doing it at a distance! The first change that we will face in the up coming year will be the date of our (formerly known as 2020) Convention. It became necessary to postpone it to April 2021 due to the uncertainty of the severity of the Coronavirus (remember, way back in mid-March, before we started calling it “Covid”?). And now, 9 months later, the uncertainty persists. Last week Dania’s Executive held a conference call meeting and after much discussion it was moved, seconded and unanimously voted in favor of recommending to Dannebrog that we postpone AGAIN to later in 2021, September 9th-11th, which was the earliest the hotel could offer, apparently we are not the only organization struggling with this dilemma. Dannebrog’s Executive Committee agreed, so, please change your calendars and cross your fingers. I wish you all a warm and wonderful holiday season, continue to stay safe, keep healthy, and I’ll be looking forward to seeing more of all of you in the New Year than we have in this old exhausted one!

> Jana Heer, Dania Grand President 2019-2020?

IN MEMORIAM:

Miriam Eskelsen Thora #11, Fresno

DANNEBROG SCHOLARSHIP:

DANIA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

DANIA/DANNEBROG S.A.F.

DANIA GENERAL FUND

Danmark #2 in Memory of PGP Kaj E. Kristensen, Danmark #2

Secretaries Desk:

Just as a reminder your Per capita Taxes are coming due next month, and you should be receiving your Annual Report information to be filled out and returned per the Constitutional requirement. Please note the change in dates for our Convention.

Grand Officers

	Dania	Dannebrog
Grand Past President	John Scheuber john.scheuber@vsi.cc	Alan Filiau adfiliau@sbcglobal.net
Grand President	Jana Heer juganddana@sbcglobal.net	Beth Cowan beth.cowan@att.net
Grand Vice President	Bente Ellis Baellis06@gmail.com	Deanna Dunbar deannadnbr@yahoo.com
Grand Secretary	Tim Heer tim-gs@sbcglobal.net (831) 426-4623	Natalie Heer natalie-gs@sbcglobal.net (831) 426-4623
Grand Treasurer	Gregory A. Gleeson gleeson2@icloud.com	Pat Brouillette pab0718@sbcglobal.net
Grand Marshal	Tom Martin thomm1@comcast.net	Stuart O Mahler smahler52@att.net
Grand Vice Marshal		Lynn Wachter wachter.lynn@gmail.com
Grand Trustee #1	Johanne Rasmussen Gade	Elizabeth Jensen ecjensen@mac.com
Grand Trustee #2	Peder Hoy pedohoy@yahoo.com	Kathy Christensen pgchris@pacbell.net
Grand Trustee #3	Robert Lamee robertlamee@yahoo.com	Tracey Lamee tlamee@yahoo.com

Upcoming Conventions

Bornholm #14	Double Tree in Modesto	September 9-11 2021
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Upcoming Installations

TBA		
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2020-2021 Convention Committee:

In light of the issues affected by Covid 19 our Annual Dania & Dannebrog Conventions had to be postponed from April 22-24, 2021 to September 9-11, 2021. Both Executive Committees ponder on this topic and felt we were delaying our date well after the benefit of the newly implemented vaccine program will be in place. Hopefully,

there will be no need for further delays. Please mark your calendars. Remember our theme will be a Celebration of the American Graffiti, so come prepared for our casual Friday night attired in your 1950-60's garb. We will keep you posted of any additional changes that may occur.
John Scheuber and the Bornholm Convention Committee

Danmark No. 2 & Thyra No. 3

Meeting: 2nd. Wednesday every month 7:30 PM Odd Fellows Building; 26 Seventh Street, San Francisco CA 94103

Danmark #2 Secretary John A. Jensen, E-Mail jajensend2@gmail.com Thyra #3 Secretary Johanne Gade

Once again, the entire San Francisco lodge wishes you good health!

Dannebrog Past Grand President Elizabeth Jensen had back surgery in November. She is recovering but needs all the positive energy she can get. I call upon all of Dania and Dannebrog to think good thoughts for Elizabeth's speedy recovery. Join all of her sons, daughters, and eight grandchildren in a rousing Get Well Soon Elizabeth! Her family thanks everyone who has reached out to convey good wishes. Mange Tak! She really appreciates it (and so do we).

It's hard to believe that November has come and gone, but not without a full month's measure of drama. Of all the things that befell us in November 2020, all the countless and recounted things, it was the weather that prevented our lodge's monthly gathering. Our lodge thanks Tom

Martin for the use of the backyard during the sunny months. We hope these types of gatherings become tradition for us, even if we are eventually allowed back in our meeting hall.

And speaking of traditions, unfortunately this year's Danmark #2 and Thyra #3 Christmas Luncheon is a bust. The idea of holding a large indoor gathering at a time when our national health crisis is seemingly exploding was just not workable. And besides, no one would have us (I can safely say it had nothing to do with our singing). There will be Christmas parties this year, but they will be smaller family events. Remember to get out your song books and Have a Merry Little Christmas.

Glædelig Jul! Godt Nytår! Stay Safe Dania and Dannebrog!
Med venlig hilsen, John A. Jensen, Secretary,
jajensend2@gmail.com , 510-299-1855

Thor No. 5 & Thora No. 11

Meeting: 1st. Saturday, 11:30 AM. Denny's 1110 Shaw Ave (on the north side, just east of First Street) Fresno.

Secretary, Martha Nielsen nielsenmarta@gmail.com

It feels like I just wrote this, yet a month has passed. We're still in the middle of this pandemic, back in the purple tier with the added curfew. The only light at the end of the tunnel are the vaccines coming down the pike.

Our lodge members are continuing to persevere and staying healthy. President Kay Jensen called to give me an update for the newsletter. She talked with Mary Christensen, Bonnie Terkelsen, Susan Christensen, Pam and Stan Kjar and they were all doing well. She called Marjorie (Nielsen) Mott and said for being 100 years old she's really doing good.

Carl Jensen has had cataract surgery on both eyes now, was doing well and was happy to have that taken care of as his eyesight is so good Betty Green was doing well but still dealing with the cancer treatments. Doris Lastreto is good, she says Rene has a caregiver and is doing pretty well. Gail Hansen was fine and still living out at the ranch alone. Her daughters and son come in regularly to visit and check on her.

Kay Jensen will not be going to Alaska to be with her son and family for Christmas this year but will be celebrating later with them.

Christie Pettitt is doing well since her hip surgery recently, (instead of the knee). This is the second time she's had it replaced and it was a little more extensive this time, so will take longer to heal. We wish you the best, Christie.

A reminder that our dues for the new year will be due in January 2021. Dannebrog members pay \$20.00, and Dania members pay \$34 for social members or \$40 for insurer members. If you want a hard copy of the newsletter you need to add \$10 for the year. Send your check to: Treasurer Christie Pettitt, 1291 E. Floral, Fresno, CA 93725.

We had some sad news, we lost one of our long time members. Miriam Eskelsen who passed November 2 at the age of 92. She was born in Fresno to Danish immigrants. Many of you will remember her late husband, George Eskelsen, who passed away in 2013. They both were very active members of our lodge.

It doesn't look like we will be having our usual Christmas party this year. It might be great if we had someone to take on the project to set us up on Zoom meetings, as several lodges have been doing. It may be too late for Christmas, but something to look forward to. Our holidays are going

to be a little quieter and smaller this year. My dinner table won't be set for all the family as my children will not be coming to Fresno, they all live out of town. We will be celebrating at a later time.

Freja No. 6 & Dana No. 15

Meeting: 1st. Sunday every month at 1:00 P.M.; Salinas Masonic Center, 48 East San Joaquin Street, Salinas CA Secretary, Natalie Heer, timandnatalie@sbcglobal.net

Over the years Dana and Freja have held wonderful Christmas Parties filled with singing the 12 days of Christmas while wearing funny hats and dancing around the tree in the middle of the IOOF Hall More recently we moved our Christmas Party to January to avoid the rush at Christmas time. This year we may need to wait until June

Dannevang No. 7 & Danebod No. 16

Meets 2nd Saturday at 6:00PM; the Farm Bureau Building, 638 Enos Way, Livermore.

Dannevang #7 Secretary, Robert Lamee, Robertlamee@yahoo.com Danebod Secretary, Kathy Thomsen, danskfarm@yahoo.com

Greetings, this will be our Christmas newsletter and reading articles from each other may be the only chance we have of getting to spend some time together. We have missed installations, conventions; social gatherings that we have previously taken for granted and now find ourselves wondering how our fellow members that we only see on these occasions are doing. I can only hope the answer to

No. 9 Thyra & Valborg No. 1

Meeting: 2nd Thursday every month 7:30 PM; 20920 Redwood Road, Castro Valley CA 94546.

President, Susan Gauthier, s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net #9 Thyra/Valborg #1 Secretary, Beth Cowan, beth.cowan@att.net

We will hold a virtual meeting via Zoom at 6:30 PM, on Thursday, December 10. Please note the earlier start time! Valborg & Thyra members have the opportunity to win an attendance drawing, if attending the virtual meeting... Don't miss out! If you would like to join the Hayward branches Zoom meeting, and after meeting socializing, please send an email to s.gauthier@sbcglobal.net. A Zoom Meeting invitation will be emailed about a week prior to the meeting.

Sønderjylland No. 10

Meeting 2nd Saturday of April, June, August and October, 11:30 at Kastania Fælled, Petaluma.

John Cruger-Hansen, Secretary, 8426 Bel View Court, El Cerrito, CA 94530-2557

Home: 510-232-6998 or cell: 510-375-5070, E-Mail: j.crugerhansen@comcast.net

Sønderjylland #10 had no meeting in November 2020.

A reminder from the Sønderjylland #10 Board of Directors: Because the COVID-19 outbreak doesn't seem to have diminished in our area in any significant manner, we will continue, until further notice, to cancel our scheduled meetings for year 2020 and in to the 2021 year. It is unfortunate that we have to take this action, but having our meetings would put our members in unnecessary danger of being infected with the COVID-19 virus. Better safe than sorry.

We hope all of you are well and coping during this difficult time and we want to wish you all a happy and safe Christmas and New Year, Glædelig Jul og Godt Nytår.

Hope all of you have a wonderful holiday season, stay safe and healthy so we can enjoy those good, good times when it will be safe for all of us to be together. M.Nielsen

or July for that Danish Dinner. I am not sure when that will be but whenever we look forward to happier Days and being together again "CHEER" "SKÅL!" Glædelig Jul and godt nytår

TJH

that is just fine. As for me I'm ready to put up the Christmas decorations (which I usually wait until the middle of December to do) and start baking. Danish Christmas cookies are the best, yum!!! (Don't forget to use lots of almonds:-) Enjoy the holidays as best as you can, and stay safe out there, godt jul KRT

A Note from Hayward Treasurers:

Membership dues are payable for the coming year. Please bring mail to the respective Treasurers. Checks payable to Valborg #1, in the amount of \$12, mail to Pat Brouillette, 1400 Jacqueline Place, San Lorenzo CA 94580. Checks payable to Thyra #9, in the amount of \$35 for sick benefit members and \$29 for social members, mail to Stuart Mahler, 803 Bantry Way, Benicia CA 94510. Happy Holidays, Susan

So far, we have not heard of any of our members getting sick with the virus, thank goodness, but please do let us know if you need any help or if you know of any of our members who need help.

John has been in contact with his cousin Karin in Denmark, and things are not as good there regarding the Covid-19 as had been hoped. However, the spread of the virus seems to have slowed to 1:1, down from 1:1.2 a month ago. That means ten infected persons will infect ten other persons, rather than twelve persons as was happening last month. That is a very technical interpretation of how Covid-19 is spread, but an important issue in Denmark. They also had a serious issue with the

virus spreading into the mink farms in Denmark, mutating and re-infecting humans. That caused a total lockdown in North Jylland, with restriction on travel to and from the region. A very scary situation and a threat to whether the new vaccines being developed would be in-effective for the mink mutation. Fortunately, it seems the lockdown has been effective and the mutated virus has died out in Denmark.

Here at home we are all staying safe as we hope all of you are too. Wearing masks, (John had a small supply of N-95 masks from a couple of years ago, US manufactured 3M brand) and now the entire Cruger-Hansen family has their own N-95 masks. A great relief when we must go out for shopping and the like. President Debbie is still teaching her 4th Grade students remotely via ZOOM, and is discovering a whole new set of programs and skills that benefit her teaching methods and her students. Caroline was again working the Thanksgiving weekend at Nordic

House in Berkeley. This was her 20th year working there for the holiday.

Caroline also informed me that Pia, Nordic House owner, has resumed taking mail orders on her website and shipping throughout the US.

<https://www.Nordichouse.com>. You can order your Danish items now, but unfortunately their shipment of frozen Flæskesteg won't be in stock until after December 6. They also offer curbside pickup on phoned in orders. 1-800-854-6435 or 510-705-1932

With the hope you are safe, and in good health, we hope to see you all after this pandemic is over.

Send us your stories about how you and your family are coping. We would love to share your stories with the other club members. It's a way for all of us to still stay in touch.

Until further notice, stay safe, stay healthy, and stay in contact with each other. Respectfully, John Cruger-Hansen
Secretary

Valhalla No. 11 & Ydun No. 10

**Meeting: 1st. Saturday every month at 11:00 A.M., Danish Hall, Ferndale, CA 95536
Secretary, Christian Nielsen, ChristianNielsen@suddenlink.net**

We are still closed and don't plan on meeting until sometime in 2021

Hope everyone is healthy and staying safe.
Christian Nielsen

Valdemar No 12. & Dannevirke No. 9

**Meeting: 1st. Friday every month at 7 PM, Odd Fellows Hall; 1300 Stardust Street Reno, NV 89503.
Secretary, Sena Marie Freeman P.O. Box 4575, Sparks NV 89432; Anette Christensen, anettechristensen@charter.net**

The Reno Lodges of Valdemar #12 and Dannevirke #9 did not meet on November 6th as planned. The Covid-19 situation is not good and there has been a big increase in cases and is not getting any better. We decided that we should keep everyone safe. Anette invited members to a Zoom meeting where a few joined in the fun. The Christmas Party is cancelled as we mentioned in last month's newsletter. This year has been something else and one for the history books. With the Christmas party cancelled, there is a group of members that will be delivering a Christmas basket/bag with goodies to all our members. It will be delivered the weekend of December 5 & 6. A few members live out of town and will receive a small package in the mail. We need to do something to keep the spirit up. Ann-Katherine is doing well and is in good sprites. She still tells me that she misses everyone and to tell everyone hello! Nina and Jordan are doing great and Glenn Fritz is doing well.

Our December Birthdays are Grae-Marie Biggs, Monica Brooks, Cindy Christensen, Irene Schack von Brockdorff,

Eva Snuffer, Marie Stafford, Nina Brandt, Susie Jensen, Michael Vanderbeck and Nick Szewczak. HAPPY BIRTHDAY EVERYONE. I would like to add something before I close this newsletter. Ann Dalgaard from Sacramento turned 100 years old on October 30th. I talked to her daughter Jackie and she told me that Ann was very alert and sharp. Her hands and legs don't work well, but her mind is great. She would love to hear from anyone that remembers her from Sacramento. Please email me at danshgal9@gmail.com or call and leave a message 775-224-6230 because I work 6 days a week. I will then give her address to you; Jackie reads all her mail to her. She would love to hear from you all.

We have heard from some of our members and so far, we have only heard good news, none that we know of have contracted Covid and we count our blessings for that! We hope everyone had a happy and safe Thanksgiving! Now wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We are all hoping for a better 2021! Be safe, stay healthy and take care. Sena-Marie

Bornholm No. 14

Meeting: 3rd. Friday every month 5:00 PM To Be Determined

President Bente Ellis, Bentfra@comcast.net Secretary Ann Stowers, ann.max@att.net

Hello to all from Dania Bornholm #14!! We had a telephone conference on Friday, November 20, 2020 at 7 p.m. Members present: Bente Ellis, John Scheuber, Marge Scheuber, Ann Stowers, Johanna Gade, Bodil Whitehouse and George Dutra.

Hope you all had a great Thanksgiving and were able to socialize with some of your family. Here in Modesto we were naughty and were sent back to the dreaded "purple" so we had pretty limited choices. Our Sunshine Lady was able to send birthday cheer to Dave Raube, Rebecca Hoy, Mary Zoller and Martha Nielsen. Also, she received a phone call from Shirley Jorgensen who told her that Jim is about the same but his sister Kathy Bruton moved to the Turlock area recently so she is able to visit with them. Peter Hoy advised that he is doing quite well and he and Doris are enjoying their kids and grandkids. Max Stowers had a recent outpatient surgery and is doing well. Ann had

cataract surgery and now has 20/0 in both eyes! Just kidding. Far vision is great. In fact, it helps me find my glasses so I can read something!!!

Because of the "Purple" Covid Restrictions, we cancelled the Thanksgiving dinner & Christmas Party. The annual Christmas Shopping Tour sponsored by the Modesto Soroptimist has been cancelled, however, they will be taking donations and their members will be shopping for the children. We decided to mail our monthly donations to them this year. In fact, if any of you wish to donate, you can send your check to Community Christmas Tree, P.O. Box 1353, Modesto, CA 95350.

We tabled further decision regarding the Fish Dinner, the Convention, and our Installation until after the Grand Lodge is able to advise of their decisions.

Wishing you all a Healthy & Merry Christmas & New Year! Ann

Danneskjold No. 17 & Laura No. 8

Meeting: 3rd Saturday at 12 Noon in various homes.

President, Doris Skow, Secretary, Kim Nielsen Giacinto, kimgiacinto@gmail.com

The members in the San Jose branches are like every place else, just biding our time until we are out of quarantine. We have been able to stay well however.

I personally have been getting out the boxes of decorations in preparation for putting them up the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

I tossed the old artificial tree last year. This year I will be getting a living tree that can be planted later here on the ranch.

If you have anyone who will be applying for scholarships this year, it's time to fill out those applications and to be

sure they get the information to the school as to where to send their grade transcripts and applications must be to Tim or Natalie Heer for the respective lodges by February 15, 2021. If you have any questions, please call or e-mail me.

I hope everyone had a nice as well as safe Thanksgiving. I am looking forward to a nice holiday season.

Keep your mask on, your distance at 6 feet at least and each other in your thoughts and prayers.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS, DWS

Hejls Minde No. 23

Meeting: 1st. Wednesday 12 noon at Bit O' Denmark,

Secretary, Jean Kardel, 5765 Oakhill Dr. Santa Maria, CA 93455

Holger Danske No. 27 & Valkyrien No. 23

Meets four times a year; contact the secretary for further information.

Holger Danske Secretary, Wayne A. Allen; Valkyrien Secretary, Darlene Iversen

It is hard to believe we are still stuck in shutdown mode. This is a season for getting together, eating, celebrating, what Danes love to do. Per my Denmark family they are just as unhappy about it and they are so sad about all the Minks they have lost.

I was in Solvang on a wonderful shopping trip before the shut down. Had a delicious Medisterpølse and Frikadeller meal with a Carlsberg and Aalborg snaps at the Red

Viking. Sat out in the now walking street. It brought back happy memories of my trips to Denmark.

Agnes Larsen had a bad fall and was in Santa Barbara for a month after hip surgery. Now back at Atterday and recovering. Everyone else is doing well. Santa Maria members are also well.

May all of you have a wonderful holiday season. I am in the process of decorating and am getting in the Christmas spirit. Glædelig Jul to you all, Darlene Iversen,